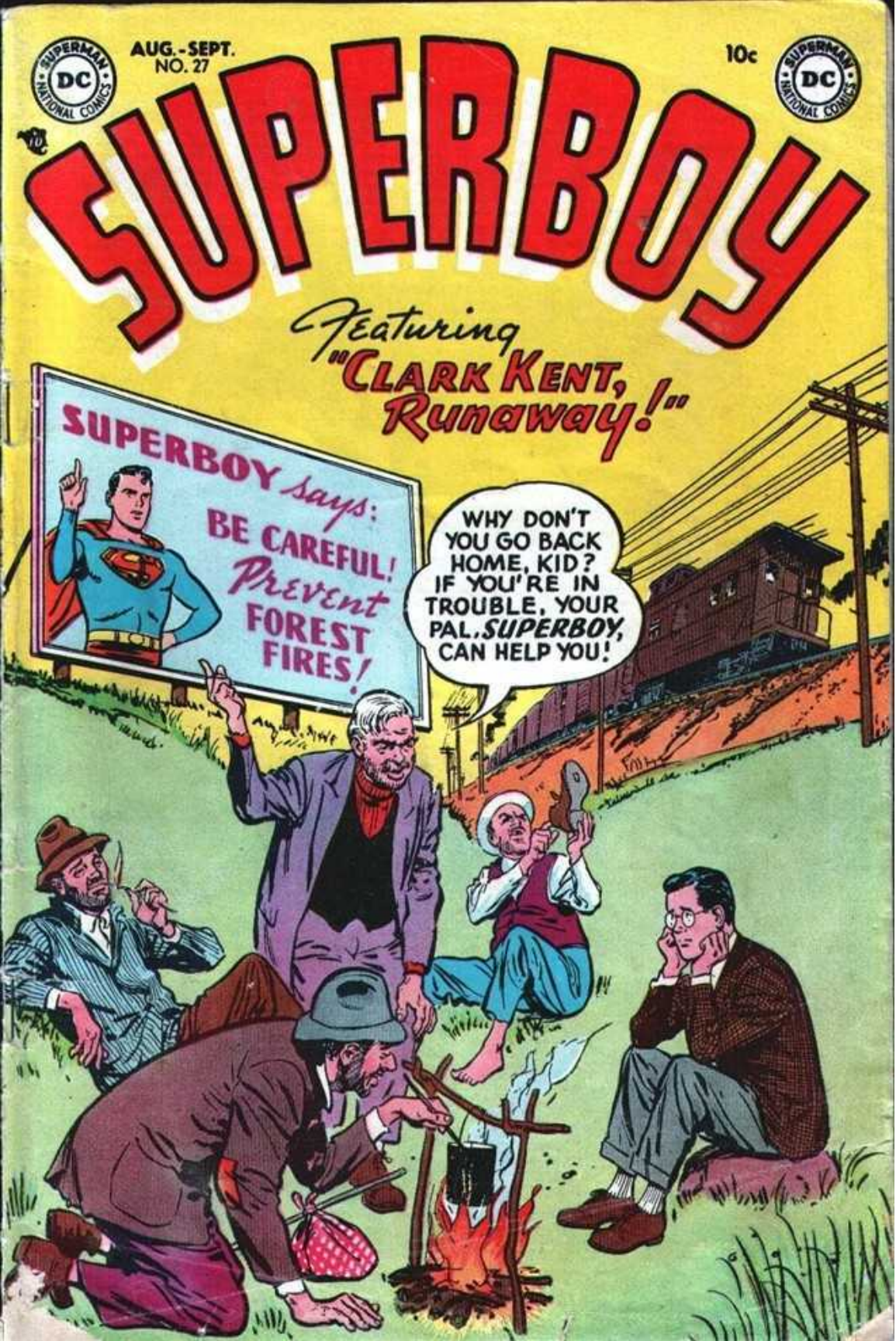
AUG.-SEPT.
NO. 27
10c
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
SUPERBOY
Featuring
"CLARK KENT, Runaway!"
SUPERBOY says:
BE CAREFUL!
Prevent
FOREST
FIRES!
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK HOME, KID? IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, YOUR PAL, SUPERBOY, CAN HELP YOU!

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
REMEMBER THE STORY OF THE PIED PIPER OF HAMLIN? HE WAS A FABULOUS MUSICIAN WHOSE PLAYING RID A VILLAGE OF A PLAGUE OF RATS... BUT HE ALSO USED THIS SAME WEIRD TALENT TO LURE THE CHILDREN FROM THEIR HOMES, NEVER TO RETURN! NOW, A MODERN MUSICIAN CASTS A SPELL OVER THE YOUTH IN SUPERBOY'S HOME TOWN--- AND EVEN THE BOY OF STEEL SEEMS POWERLESS BEFORE THE HAUNTING TUNES PLAYED BY...
The PIED PIPER of SMALLVILLE
TOO-TOODLE--DOO--DOOO
SUPERBOY! COME BACK! WE NEED YOU!
IT'S HOPELESS! HE---HE SEEMS TO BE IN A TRANCE!
GENERAL DYNAMITE CO.
BOW WOW!
1

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ONE DAY, ON A VACANT LOT IN SMALLVILLE...
THIS WAS A GREAT IDEA OF YOURS, SUPERBOY... BUT YOU SHOULD'VE LET US KNOW WE'D HIT SOLID ROCK! WE CAN'T DIG ANY MORE!
I WANTED YOU FELLOWS TO CLEAR THE TOP SOIL SO EVERYONE WOULD HAVE A HAND IN THE JOB--- BUT THIS PROBLEM CALLS FOR MY SPECIAL TALENTS!
I'LL SIMPLY FOLLOW ALONG THE LINE WHERE YOU CLEARED THE TOP SOIL! BY WHIRLING MY ARM AT SUPER-SPEED, I CAN USE IT AS A KNIFE TO CUT THROUGH THIS SOLID ROCK!
WOW! LOOK AT HIM GO!
NOW I'LL JUST LIFT THIS CHUNK OUT! THERE YOU ARE!
TERRIFIC! SOON AS WE PUT ON THE FINISHING TOUCHES, IT'LL BE A PERFECT SWIMMING POOL!

THUS, BEFORE LONG...
BUILDING THIS POOL WAS A FINE IDEA, SUPERBOY! IT GIVES OUR YOUNGSTERS SOMETHING TO DO BESIDES HANG AROUND STREET CORNERS DURING THEIR SUMMER VACATION! BUT WHAT'S THE MATTER?...YOU DON'T SEEM ALTOGETHER PLEASED!
THERE ARE STILL A LOT OF BOYS MISSING, MR. BARNES, EVEN THOUGH I INVITED EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE! I'LL HAVE TO FIND OUT WHY!
SUPERBOY RECREATION CENTER
BUT WHEN SUPERBOY GOES ABOUT TOWN, INVESTIGATING...
AW--- SWIMMIN'S OKAY, SUPERBOY, BUT WE LIKE THIS BETTER! THANKS FOR THE INVITATION ANYHOW!
BUT LAST YEAR, FOUR BOYS WERE RUN OVER, PLAYING IN THE STREETS!
SURE, SURE--- WE KNOW ALL ABOUT IT... BUT THAT'S OUR BUSINESS!
EVERYWHERE, THE RESULT IS THE SAME...
PLEASE--- NO LECTURES, SUPERBOY! THIS IS THE WAY WE ALWAYS SPEND OUR SUMMER VACATION! WE LIKE IT!
GOSH, WITHOUT SOMETHING WORTHWHILE TO OCCUPY THEIR TIME, THESE FELLOWS ARE APT TO GET INTO TROUBLE SOONER OR LATER! IF I COULD ONLY THINK OF SOME ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD INTEREST THEM!

THE FOLLOWING DAY...
I'VE AN IDEA FOR A BASEBALL PARK THAT... HEY! WHERE'S THE GANG THAT WAS PLAYING STICKBALL HERE YESTERDAY? THEY'RE GONE... NOT A SIGN OF THEM ANYWHERE!
AND THE FELLOWS WHO ALWAYS HANG AROUND THIS CORNER... THEY'VE DISAPPEARED TOO! I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON?
BILLIARDS
WHY, THERE THEY ALL ARE--- LISTENING TO THAT MAN PLAYING THE CLARINET IN THAT JUNK YARD! NO WONDER THEY'RE ALL OFF THE STREETS! AND I DON'T BLAME THEM... HE PLAYS BEAUTIFULLY!
YARD
YOU CERTAINLY ARE POPULAR WITH THE FELLOWS! WHAT'S THE SECRET OF YOUR SUCCESS, MISTER... ER... MISTER...?
I'M JERRY HOWES! I WAS JUST PASSING THROUGH SMALLVILLE ON MY WAY TO THE CITY--- LOOKING FOR A JOB THERE! KIDS LIKE MY PLAYING... AS A MATTER OF FACT, AT HOME THEY CALL ME THE PIED PIPER!
COME ON, JERRY... LET'S HEAR SOME MORE!
I'D CONSIDER IT A PERSONAL FAVOR IF YOU'D STICK AROUND SMALLVILLE A BIT LONGER! I'VE AN IDEA YOU CAN SOLVE A PROBLEM THAT'S BEEN WORRYING ME!
WELL, I CAN'T REFUSE A REQUEST FROM SUPERBOY! SURE--- I'LL SPEND A FEW DAYS HERE!
WHAT IS SUPERBOY PLANNING? THAT NIGHT, WHERE THE JUNK YARD ONCE STOOD...
WHAT A TRANSFORMATION, SUPERBOY! YOU'VE TURNED THIS OLD PLACE INTO A SWELL RECREATION CENTER! THE OLD TAIL LIGHT REFLECTORS FOR DECORATION--- OLD AUTO SEATS FOR BOOTHS... IT'S TERRIFIC!
AND LOOK AT THE CROWD... THEY'VE COME TO HEAR YOU PLAY, JERRY!

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
THIS PLAQUE IS TO SHOW YOU HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE FOR THE WONDERFUL RECREATION PROGRAM YOU'VE ORGANIZED FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS, SUPERBOY!
HMPH! A PLAQUE FOR SUPERBOY--- BUT NOT EVEN A MENTION OF THE JOB I DID, WITH MY CLARINET!
MY BOY KEEPS TALKING ABOUT SOME CLARINETIST WHO PLAYS EVERY EVENING FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE! I WONDER WHY HE'S NOT ON THE PLATFORM?
WELL, MY DEAR, EVERYONE SAYS HE'S JUST A TRAMP MUSICIAN! YOU COULD HARDLY EXPECT THE MAYOR TO RECEIVE THAT SORT OF PERSON!
TRAMP MUSICIAN, EH? SO THAT'S WHAT THEY THINK OF ME IN SMALLVILLE!
WHO DO YOU THINK GOT YOUR KIDS OFF THE STREET, LADY? ME! YOU'LL BE SORRY SOMEDAY THAT YOU DIDN'T APPRECIATE IT!
WELL! I NEVER!
LATER, AT THE SMALLVILLE HOTEL...
DID YOU EVER HEAR OF THE PIED PIPER OF HAMLIN? YOU KNOW WHAT HE DID WHEN HE WASN'T APPRECIATED! WELL, I'D LIKE TO DO THE SAME THING... THAT WOULD TEACH SMALLVILLE A LESSON!
NOW, NOW, MR. HOWES! STOP TALKING CRAZY! YOU'LL FEEL BETTER IN THE MORNING... AND I'M SURE SMALLVILLE WON'T FORGET YOU!
BUT THE FOLLOWING DAY...
FUNNY... I WONDER WHERE JERRY IS? HE WAS SUPPOSED TO PLAY HERE THIS AFTERNOON! AND THE KIDS... THERE'S NOT ONE OF THEM IN SIGHT!
AND MOMENTS AFTER...
AH--- THERE'S THE GANG! AND LOOK AT THE WAY THEY'RE FOLLOWING JERRY--- AS THOUGH HE WERE THE LEGENDARY PIED PIPER! BUT WAIT--- HE'S LEADING THEM RIGHT INTO A DYNAMITE ZONE!
BLOOD BLOOD BLOOD
DANGER! BLASTING
4

THAT WORKMAN CAN'T SEE THE KIDS APPROACHING! HE'S SETTING OFF A CHARGE OF DYNAMITE! MUST WARN THEM!
STOP! THERE'S DANGER!
MY SUPER-VOICE REACHED THEM, BUT THEY KEEP FOLLOWING JERRY! IT'S AS IF THEY'RE IN A TRANCE! I MUST STOP THE WORKMAN FROM SETTING OFF THE CHARGE... AND THE QUICKEST WAY IS WITH MY X-RAY VISION!
THE HEAT OF THE X-RAYS WILL MELT THE STEEL IN THAT PLUNGER SHAFT!
WELL, HERE GOES A... OOPS!
CRACK
PRESENTLY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU FELLOWS? DIDN'T YOU SEE THE SIGN WARNING OF BLASTING?
GOSH, SUPERBOY-- I DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE WHERE I WAS! ALL I KNOW IS THAT JERRY STARTED PLAYING, AND I HAD AN IRRESISTABLE URGE TO FOLLOW!
ME, TOO! FIRST TIME I REALIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING WAS WHEN JERRY STOPPED PLAYING A MINUTE AGO!
AND THE NEXT MORNING...
I THINK ITS TIME I HAD A WORD WITH JERRY! WHAT IN THE WORLD'S HE TOOTLING OUT HERE NOW, BY THE... HOLY SMOKES! HE'S LEADING THE KIDS ACROSS THAT NEW BRIDGE BEING CONSTRUCTED OVER SMALLVILLE RIVER!

FANTASTIC... HE'S GOT THEM RISKING THEIR LIVES, WALKING ALONG THAT NARROW GIRDER--- AND LANA LANG'S IN THE LEAD! WHAT CAN I DO?... IF I STOP JERRY'S PLAYING, THEY MIGHT COME OUT OF THEIR STRANGE TRANCE... AND ONE MISSTEP MEANS DOOM! MUST RESCUE THEM SOME OTHER WAY!
TOOO DOO DLOOO

ABRUPTLY, THE BOY OF STEEL GOES INTO WHIRLWIND ACTION...
THIS BRIDGE HAS TO BE FINISHED ABOUT SIX MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE! BY COMPLETING THIS BRIDGE AT SUPER-SPEED, I'LL NOT ONLY BE PROTECTING LIVES, BUT...
... I'LL BE SAVING SMALLVILLE ABOUT SIX MONTHS OF WORK! JUST HOPE JERRY KEEPS PLAYING UNTIL I FINISH!

AND WITHIN A FEW SHORT SECONDS...
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO THEM, JERRY? AND WHY? DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU'RE RISKING THEIR LIVES WITH YOUR PLAYING?
MY PLAYING WAS WELCOME IN SMALLVILLE WHEN YOU WANTED ME TO GET THE KIDS OFF THE STREETS! BUT AFTER THE JOB WAS DONE, THE TOWN FORGOT ABOUT ME!

YOU'VE GOT US ALL WRONG, JERRY... THE TOWN HASN'T FORGOTTEN YOU! WE'RE PLANNING A REAL CELEBRATION FOR YOU, AND--- AND...
SORRY... IT'S TOO LATE TO MAKE AMENDS! I INTEND TO MAKE THE PEOPLE HERE APPRECIATE THE MAGIC OF MY MUSIC! AND THERE'S NO LAW AGAINST PLAYING... THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP ME, SUPERBOY!

LATER, WHEN SUPERBOY IS ALONE...
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S COME OVER JERRY... HE SEEMED LIKE SUCH A NICE FELLOW WHEN WE FIRST MET! WELL, PERHAPS IN MY EVERYDAY IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT, I CAN LEARN A LITTLE MORE!

SHORTLY, IN LANA LANG'S HOUSE...
I SEE YOU WERE ONE OF THOSE WHO FOLLOWED THE "PIED PIPER" LANA! WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?
I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, CLARK! I WAS JUST WALKING ALONG THE STREET WHEN I HEARD HIM PLAYING, AND, ALL I KNEW WAS I HAD TO FOLLOW THAT MUSIC! IT WAS AS THOUGH··· AS THOUGH I WERE HYPNOTIZED!
SMALLVILLE GAZETTE
PARENTS PROTEST AGAINST PIED PIPER
AFTERWARDS...
AH... LOOKS LIKE SOME OF THE PARENTS HAVE CORNERED JERRY··· BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM A BIT DISTURBED BY THE TROUBLE HE'S CAUSED!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT THAT I HAVE... ER... UNUSUAL TALENTS! ALL I DO IS PLAY MY CLARINET... THERE! NO LAW AGAINST THAT!
NOW, IF YOU'LL JUST LEAVE ME ALONE, I MUST MAKE SOME NEW REEDS FOR MY CLARINET! I ALWAYS CARVE THEM FROM THIS SPECIAL WOOD!
HMPH! GUESS THERE ISN'T ANY WAY WE CAN STOP HIM LEGALLY··· BUT HE'D BETTER NOT ENDANGER THE KIDS' LIVES AGAIN!
HMM... HE KEEPS THE MATERIAL FROM WHICH HE MAKES HIS REEDS IN THAT BOX! WONDER WHAT ELSE IS INSIDE IT?
I'LL JUST TAKE A QUICK LOOK AND··AND... GREAT SCOTT! THAT BOX IS LINED WITH LEAD, THE ONE SUBSTANCE WHICH MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE! I'M AS MUCH IN THE DARK AS BEFORE!
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL HE OPENS IT AGAIN AND... WAIT... HE'S STARTING TO PLAY! GOOD! MAYBE I CAN LEARN SOMETHING BY JOINING HIS FOLLOWING MYSELF!
MOMENTS LATER...
THAT MUSIC... I···I MUST FOLLOW IT! DON'T YOU FEEL DRAWN TO IT, CLARK?
GOSH··SHE REALLY SEEMS TO BE UNDER SOME SPELL! NATURALLY, I'M IMMUNE TO IT... BUT I'LL PRETEND TO GO ALONG!
ER... YES, LANA··· IT'S JUST TOO STRONG TO RESIST!
BUT AS THE STRANGE PROCESSION MOVES ALONG...
GOOD GRIEF! HE'S LEADING THEM INTO A MAZE OF LIVE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT... AND THEY DON'T EVEN REALIZE THE DANGER! I'D BETTER DO SOMETHING··· AS SUPERBOY!
SMALLVILLE ELECTRIC CO. DANGER
7

IN CONCEALMENT, ANOTHER LIGHTNING CHANGE--AND IN THE NEXT SECOND...
I'VE CUT OFF THE CURRENT THAT FEEDS ALL THE POWER TO THIS PLACE! THE KIDS ARE SAFE NOW, BUT I CAN'T RISK LEAVING SMALLVILLE WITHOUT ELECTRICITY! SO I'LL WRAP THIS COPPER WIRE AROUND ME...
...AND SPIN AT SUPER-SPEED, BECOMING A HUMAN DYNAMO! THE ELECTRICITY I CREATE IS FED INTO THE CABLES, WHICH CARRY IT INTO TOWN! I'LL KEEP THIS UP UNTIL EVERYONE'S OUT OF HERE, THEN TURN ON THE REGULAR POWER AGAIN!
WHRRRRRR
AND LATER, WHEN JERRY HAS CEASED PLAYING...
OUR PATIENCE IS AT AN END, YOUNG MAN! WE DEMAND TO KNOW WHAT POWER YOU HOLD OVER OUR YOUNGSTERS!
WELL, IF YOU INSIST, THIS COULD BE THE ANSWER! I CUT THE REEDS FOR MY CLARINET FROM THIS ANCIENT WOODEN PIPE I FOUND IN GERMANY! TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!
HE'S TAKING IT FROM THE LEAD-LINED BOX WHICH MY X-RAY VISION COULDN'T PENETRATE!
WHAT...? THE WORDS CARVED ON THE PIPE! "HAMLIN, GERMANY--1204 A.D.!" WHY, HAMLIN'S THE TOWN MADE FAMOUS BY THE ORIGINAL PIED PIPER!
AND 1204 WAS THE YEAR THE CHILDREN OF HAMLIN FOLLOWED HIM OUT OF TOWN, NEVER TO RETURN! BUT... BUT DOES THIS MEAN YOU HAVE HIS POWER?...THAT YOU CAN LEAD OUR CHILDREN ANYWHERE?
I'M NOT MAKING ANY CLAIMS! ALL I KNOW IS I'VE GOT A RIGHT TO PLAY MY CLARINET IF I FEEL LIKE IT--- AND IF THE KIDS FOLLOW ME, WHAT CAN I DO? OF COURSE, IF... ER... I WAS OFFERED SOME INDUCEMENT TO LEAVE TOWN--- SAY $50,000...
SO THAT'S HIS REASON! BLACKMAIL!
NEVER! WE WON'T PAY ANY BRIBES! WE'LL FIND SOME OTHER WAY!
SUIT YOURSELVES! BUT REMEMBER... I JUST PLAY THE CLARINET! I'M NOT RESPONSIBLE IF YOUR KIDS FOLLOW ME TO... ER... DANGEROUS PLACES!
LATER, AS SUPERBOY PONDERS THE PROBLEM OF THE MODERN PIED PIPER...
THERE CAN'T BE ANYTHING IN THAT NONSENSE ABOUT CUTTING REEDS FROM THE LEGENDARY PIPER'S INSTRUMENT... YET, WHAT OTHER EXPLANATION IS THERE FOR HIS AMAZING POWER?

JUST THEN...
ALL RIGHT, KIDS... LINE UP FOR THE PAYOFF!
WHAT---? AM I HEARING THINGS? TH-THAT'S JERRY'S VOICE!
TEN BUCKS EACH FOR HAVING FOLLOWED ME! OUR LITTLE TRICK IS WORKING SWELL... ONE MORE TIME AND THEY'LL REALLY BELIEVE IN THE PIED PIPER'S MAGIC! HA, HA!
THANKS, JERRY! YOU CAN COUNT ON US THE NEXT TIME!
SO THAT'S THE ANSWER! JERRY PAYS THE KIDS TO FOLLOW HIM!
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE MY OWN X-RAY VISION! MY FRIENDS TAKING MONEY TO PUT OVER A SWINDLE ON THE TOWN... AND EVEN LANA'S IN ON IT!
ISN'T THIS TERRIFIC? AND THE BEST PART OF THE WHOLE DEAL IS THAT WE CAN GO IN THE MOST DANGEROUS SPOTS, BECAUSE SUPERBOY ALWAYS APPEARS TO SAVE US--- JUST THE WAY JERRY FIGURED HE WOULD!
NEXT DAY...
PERHAPS IF I FIND SOME OF THE YOUNGSTERS AND TALK TO THEM, THEY'LL... WAIT! THEY'RE FOLLOWING JERRY AGAIN... AND HE'S RUNNING AT FULL SPEED, TO ELUDE SOME PARENTS WHO ARE CHASING THEM! HMM... THERE'S SOMETHING MIGHTY STRANGE ABOUT THIS!
STOP! STOP! THIS INSTANT!
IT TAKES A LOT OF BREATH TO PLAY A CLARINET--- YET HE CAN DO IT WHILE RUNNING! THIS MAY BE THE ANSWER! I'VE GOT TO MAKE A SEARCH OF THE TOWN AT SUPER-SPEED!
AND SOME HOURS AFTER...
I CAN'T FIND MY HAROLD ANYWHERE! YOU MUST TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE DONE WITH HIM?
MY DAUGHTER SARAH... WHERE IS SHE?
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, FOLKS, BUT THE YOUNG PEOPLE FOLLOWED ME INTO THE HILLS WHILE I WAS PLAYING! I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE PLAYING ON THE WAY BACK, SO THEY STAYED THERE! I... ER... HOPE THEY DON'T GET LOST IN THE CAVES!
IT MIGHT TAKE HOURS TO FIND THEM, AND NIGHT'S COMING ON! BUT IF I WERE TO PLAY, THEY'D COME RIGHT OUT! ONLY... ER... TROUBLE IS, MY FEE FOR THIS PERFORMANCE IS $50,000!
GO AHEAD, FOLKS... PAY HIM TO PLAY!

WELL--- IF SUPERBOY SAYS IT'S THE ONLY WAY, I'LL PUT UP MY SHARE! NO PRICE IS TOO HIGH TO BRING BACK OUR CHILDREN!
I GIVE MY WORD YOU'LL GET YOUR MONEY IF YOU PLAY THE CLARINET! MEANWHILE, I'LL HOLD THIS BOX FOR YOU! GO AHEAD... WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
WELL, I... ER... AH...
WELL, IF YOU WON'T PLAY, HERE'S SOMEONE WHO WILL! GO AHEAD, JERRY!
RIGHT, SUPERBOY! HERE GOES!
ANOTHER PIED PIPER! WHAT...WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?


THAT'S THE SIGNAL FOR US TO COME OUT OF THE CAVES AND... LOOK! THERE ARE TWO JERRY'S!
THERE'S MY HAROLD! HE'S COME BACK!
TOODLE-- OODLE-- OOO
AND NOW--- LET'S HAVE A BETTER LOOK AT YOU!
WHY, HE'S A FAKE! HE TOLD US HE WAS IN A NEW MOVIE CALLED THE "PIED PIPER," AND PAID US TO FOLLOW HIM AS A PUBLICITY STUNT!
HE'S ACTUALLY A SMALL-TIME CROOK FROM METROPOLIS, NAMED GAFF LOMAR!

WHEN HE OVERHEARD ME GRIPING TO THE HOTEL CLERK ABOUT NOT BEING APPRECIATED, HE GOT THIS IDEA FOR A SWINDLE! HE HELD ME PRISONER IN MY ROOM AND TOOK MY PLACE!
AH---JUST AS I THOUGHT! THIS BOX CONTAINS A WIRE RECORDER WHICH GAVE OUT THE CLARINET MUSIC! YOU COULDN'T MAKE MUSIC WITHOUT IT!
YOU SEE, I SUSPECTED YOU WEREN'T REALLY PLAYING WHEN I SPOTTED YOU RUNNING AND MAKING MUSIC AT THE SAME TIME! AFTER THAT, I SEARCHED THE TOWN UNTIL I FOUND THE REAL JERRY TIED UP IN HIS HOTEL ROOM!
THEN THE BUSINESS ABOUT MAKING REEDS FROM THE ORIGINAL PIPE FROM HAMLIN WAS JUST TO GIVE HIM AN EXCUSE FOR CARRYING THAT BOX AROUND!
AND SOME DAYS AFTER...
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU FOLLOWED THE PIED PIPER, CLARK! YOU WEREN'T EVEN IN ON THE SCHEME!
WHY... ER... AH, DIDN'T YOU KNOW, LANA? MUSIC ALWAYS SENDS ME! GOSH, ER... I CAN'T HEAR A HOT LICK WITHOUT GOING OUT OF THIS WORLD!
Y-YOU UNDERSTAND GULP DON'T YOU?
THE END

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
HOW WILL SUPERBOY APPEAR TO PEOPLE OF THE FUTURE? WILL HE BE A LEGEND... LIKE THE GREAT MEN OF HISTORY ARE TO US TODAY? WILL HIS MIGHTY FEATS BE RECOUNTED IN SCHOOL-BOOKS OF THAT FUTURE DAY. AND WILL PEOPLE WONDER WHAT SUPERBOY WAS REALLY LIKE?
WELL, SUPERBOY LEARNS THE AMAZING ANSWERS TO SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS WHEN A STRANGE ACCIDENT CASTS HIM INTO A FAR DISTANT ERA, AND HE BECOMES...
"The MOVIE STAR of TOMORROW!"
HOW DO YOU LIKE MY 4th DIMENSIONAL MOVIE?
WONDERFUL! WITH ACTUAL PICTURES OF SUPERBOY IN ACTION A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, HOW CAN YOU GO WRONG?

EARLY ONE MORNING IN SMALLVILLE, AS SUPERBOY RETURNS HOME FROM A ROUTINE DAWN PATROL...
NOTHING MUCH STIRRING! TIME TO CHANGE BACK TO CLARK KENT, AND GET READY FOR SCHOOL!
AND SHORTLY AFTERWARD, IN CLARK'S ROOM IN THE KENT HOME...
MA KENT WILL BE CALLING ME DOWN TO BREAKFAST IN A MINUTE! I'LL JUST PUT ON MY EYE-GLASSES AND...
SUDDENLY!
HUH?
POUF
MY EYEGLASSES VANISHED! I PUT OUT MY HAND TO GET THEM, AND THEY JUST DISAPP... HMM! THERE'S LANA LANG, ON HER WAY TO SCHOOL! CAN SHE HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS?
IT IS A PUZZLED CLARK KENT WHO GOES TO SCHOOL AND KEEPS A CAREFUL WATCH ON LANA LANG UNTIL LUNCHTIME...
LUCKY I HAD A SPARE PAIR OF EYEGLASSES! I WONDER WHAT LANA IS PLANNING TO DO WITH... EEEYOW!
POUF
WHAT'S THE MATTER, CLARK? YOU SOUNDED AS THOUGH YOU JUST HAD AN UNPLEASANT SURPRISE!
ER... NOTHING AT ALL, LANA!
IS SHE SECRETLY LAUGHING AT ME? FIRST MY GLASSES DISAPPEAR, AND NOW MY HAT--- AND LANA LANG WAS NEARBY BOTH TIMES IT HAPPENED!
AND WHEN THE AFTERNOON SESSION OF SCHOOL RESUMES...
CLARK, READ US YOUR COMPOSITION ON THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION!
I---I CAN'T!
I WAS HOLDING IT RIGHT IN MY HANDS AND IT VANISHED! SOMETHING CRAZY IS HAPPENING TO ME!
POUF
2

LANA IS ALWAYS TRYING TO FIND OUT WHETHER I'M SUPERBOY! THIS MIGHT BE ANOTHER TRICK OF HERS, TO FIND OUT MY IDENTITY BY ANALYZING MY PERSONAL POSSESSIONS! BUT, BUT HOW IS SHE MAKING THEM DISAPPEAR? NO ORDINARY GIRL COULD PULL A TRICK LIKE THIS!
WITH HIS SUSPICIONS NOW ROUSED TO FEVER PITCH, CLARK KENT CLOSELY FOLLOWS LANA LANG ON HER WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL...
LANA DOESN'T ACT AS THOUGH ANYTHING UNUSUAL WERE HAPPENI--- GOLLY! THAT TRUCK SWERVED TO AVOID HITTING A CHILD, AND IT'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR LANA LANG!
A DAZZLINGLY-SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND CLARK KENT BECOMES MIGHTY--- SUPERBOY...
I'LL BE JUST IN TIME TO PREVENT A FATAL ACCIDENT!
Eeeeeeeeeee!
ONE INSTANT SUPERBOY IS THERE, SPEEDING TO INTERCEPT THE CAREENING TRUCK, AND THE NEXT INSTANT--- SUPERBOY IS GONE!
BOUF
AND WHEN THE BOY OF STEEL NEXT BECOMES AWARE OF HIS SURROUNDINGS...
WH-WHERE AM I? H-HOW DID I GET HERE?
MUSEUM OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
JET PLANE
EISENHOWER
WHAT KIND OF A PLACE IS THIS?
SUPERBOY! CAN IT REALLY BE YOU? I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW DELIGHTED I AM TO SEE YOU! MY NAME IS JONATHAN EXO...
RAILROAD TRAIN A PRIMITIVE VEHICLE RUNNING ON TRACKS
3

MOMENTS LATER, SUPERBOY LISTENS TO A FANTASTIC EXPLANATION OF HIS PRESENCE IN ANOTHER TIME...
I SNATCHED YOU HERE, INTO THE THIRTIETH CENTURY, SUPERBOY, BY MEANS OF MY FOURTH DIMENSION CAMERA! I'M AFRAID IT ISN'T QUITE PERFECTED YET! MY CAMERA IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE PICTURES OF YOU IN ACTION... BUT INSTEAD IT KEEPS BRINGING BACK PERSONAL OBJECTS BELONGING TO YOU!
SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED TO CLARK'S EYEGLASSES, CAP AND COMPOSITION PAPER!
AND WHEN JONATHAN EXO SHOWS HIS INVENTION TO SUPERBOY...
MY FOURTH DIMENSION CAMERA OPERATES NOT ONLY IN THE PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS--- BUT ALSO IN TIME! OR, AT LEAST, THAT'S HOW IT WILL OPERATE--- WHEN I FINALLY GET IT PERFECTED!
THAT MAY BE YEARS! YOU CAN'T KEEP FOCUSSING ON ME ALL THAT TIME! YOU'LL KEEP RIGHT ON SNATCHING MY PERSONAL BELONGINGS--- AND EVEN MYSELF--- INTO THIS ERA!
I REALIZE THAT, SUPERBOY! BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE! YOU SEE, MY COMPETITOR RUNS A RIVAL TWENTIETH CENTURY MUSEUM IN TOWN--- AND IT'S BEEN GETTING ALL MY CUSTOMERS! I'VE GOT TO HAVE AN ATTRACTION TO MATCH HIS SUPERMAN EXHIBIT... OR I'LL GO BANKRUPT!
SUPERMAN EXHIBIT?
WOULD YOU CARE TO SEE IT? BETTER WEAR A DIFFERENT COSTUME! AND YOU CAN'T APPEAR AS CLARK KENT EITHER! YOUR DUAL IDENTITY IS WELL KNOWN IN OUR TIME!
AND SO SUPERBOY IS GRANTED A PRIVILEGE KNOWN TO NO OTHER HUMAN--- A GLIMPSE AT HIMSELF AS HE WILL APPEAR AS A FULL GROWN MAN...
THIS IS THE MUSEUM OWNED BY MY RIVAL, DIRL HESTON! THE SUPERMAN EXHIBIT IS HIS BIGGEST ATTRACTION IN YEARS!
SUPERMAN EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY HERE
AND WITHIN THE RIVAL MUSEUM...
DIRL HESTON HAS ACQUIRED AUTHENTIC SUPERMAN SOUVENIRS! THAT CAPE IS THE SAME ONE SUPERMAN WORE, FOR EXAMPLE!
GOLLY! JONATHAN EXO IS LOOKING AT SOMEONE FROM THE PAST. BUT I'M LOOKING AT MY OWN FUTURE SELF!
4

THIS DIAMOND WAS MADE BY SUPERMAN OUT OF A PIECE OF COAL! OUR MODERN FINGERPRINT METHODS CONCLUSIVELY PROVE THAT SUPERMAN'S FINGERPRINTS ARE ON IT!
GOSH!
THIS ANCIENT DEVICE IS CALLED A TYPEWRITER! IT WAS USED BY SUPERMAN, IN HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT, WHILE HE WAS WORKING AT--
I WISH YOU WOULDN'T TELL ME! THERE ARE SOME THINGS I'D RATHER NOT KNOW ABOUT MY FUTURE!
LATER...
THE SUPERMAN EXHIBIT IS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS! THAT'S WHY I'VE GOT TO PERFECT MY FUTURE CAMERA! ONLY ACTUAL PICTURES OF YOU IN ACTION CAN BRING CUSTOMERS BACK TO MY MUSEUM!
HMM!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY FOR PICTURES OF SUPERMAN IN ACTION?

MY CAMERA, SO FAR, ONLY FOCUSSES ON THAT PERIOD OF TIME FROM WHICH YOU WERE TAKEN! I'M SORRY IF IT'S INCONVENIENCED YOU, BUT...
YOU MUST DISCONTINUE THESE EXPERIMENTS--- THEY INTERFERE WITH MY WORK IN THE PAST. AND IF YOU STOP THEM, I'LL GIVE YOU THE ACTION FILMS THAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!
SHORTLY AFTERWARD, THE NIGHT SKY OF THE YEAR 3,000 IS ILLUMINED BY GLOWING LETTERS THAT SEEMINGLY APPEAR FROM NOWHERE...
PREMIERE OF 4TH DIMENSION FILM SUPERBOY SCENES FILMED AS THEY HAPPEN!

AS IMPATIENT CUSTOMERS GATHER AT JONATHAN EXO'S MUSEUM THE NEXT DAY, DIRL HESTON WATCHES ENVIOUSLY...
BAH! EVERYBODY WANTS TO SEE JONATHAN EXO'S NEW FOUR DIMENSION MOVIE! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM, SOMEHOW--- OR I'LL BE RUINED!
HOW CAN I COMPETE AGAINST FOUR DIMENSION MOVIES--- STARRING SUPERBOY? NOTHING CAN COMPETE WITH THAT KIND OF ATTRACTION! BUT I'M NOT BEATEN, YET! I'LL FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO WRECK THE PREMIERE OF THE NEW FOUR DIMENSION MOVIE!

MEANWHILE...
LOOKS LIKE YOUR ADVERTISING BROUGHT RESULTS!
EVERYONE'S IMPATIENT TO SEE THE NEW FOURTH DIMENSION MOVIE, SUPERBOY! I'VE SET UP AUTOMATIC RECORDING CAMERAS ON THE SITE YOU CHOSE! EVERYONE WILL THINK THE FEATS YOU PERFORM ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE OVER A THOUSAND YEARS AGO--- AND ARE BEING RECORDED BY MY FOURTH DIMENSION CAMERA!
SHORTLY, WITHIN THE CROWDED MUSEUM AMPHITHEATER A SCENE FLASHES ONTO THE SCREEN...
SUPERBOY... IN ACTION!
GOODNESS! IT LOOKS SO REAL! JUST AS THOUGH IT WERE HAPPENING THIS VERY MINUTE!
SUPERBOY'S WELDING THAT BRIDGE SUPPORT INTO PLACE--- WITH HIS BARE HANDS!
GOSH! THESE FOUR DIMENSION MOVIES ARE THE BEST ENTERTAINMENT I'VE EVER SEEN!
SUPERBOY FINISHED REPAIRING THAT BRIDGE! HE'S FLYING AWAY!
GOSH! I HOPE THE SHOW ISN'T OVER!
WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON...
THERE WILL BE A SHORT INTERMISSION--- WHILE THE FOURTH DIMENSION CAMERA IS REFOCUSSED ON ANOTHER SCENE OF SUPERBOY IN ACTION!
HOORAY!
DURING THE SHORT INTERMISSION, SUPERBOY IS HARD AT WORK ON A SETTING NOT TOO FAR DISTANT...
NOW TO DISMANTLE THE BRIDGE AND ROBOT CARS THAT I BUILT FOR THAT LAST SCENE! THERE'S GOT TO BE A NEW SETTING FOR MY NEXT SHOW IN A FEW MINUTES!

HOORAY! HE DID IT!
SKREEEE

AND WHEN A NEW INTERMISSION IS CALLED...
LUCKY THOSE AUTOMATIC CAMERAS DIDN'T SHOW THE FULL LENGTH OF THIS TRACK! IT WAS JUST BUILT FOR THAT ONE SCENE...
I'D BETTER HURRY! IN ANOTHER MINUTE, I'VE GOT TO SET THE STAGE FOR MY FINAL PERFORMANCE!
AT THIS MOMENT, IN THE PROJECTION ROOM AT JONATHAN EXO'S MUSEUM...
THIS SHOW IS OVER--- AS OF NOW!
UHH
NOW TO WRECK THE FOURTH DIMENSION CAMERA, AND PUT AN END TO THESE SCENES FROM THE PAST!... HUH? THERE'S NO FILM IN THE FOURTH DIMENSION CAMERA! IT ISN'T TAKING PICTURES OF ANYTHING!
WHEN THE VILLAINOUS DIRT HESTON TRACES THE SOURCE OF THE AMAZING FILMS...
THE PICTURES ARE COMING FROM AN AUTOMATIC RECORDING CAMERA! BUT, BUT THAT MEANS THEY'RE NOT FROM THE PAST! THESE SCENES ACTUALLY SHOW SUPERBOY IN ACTION--- IN OUR OWN TIME!
THAT GIANT SKYSCRAPER--- THE PASSENGER PLANE OF ANCIENT DESIGN--- MUST ALL HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED BY SUPERBOY HIMSELF!

AS THE SCENE ON FILM IS PROJECTED ONTO THE MUSEUM SCREEN...
IT'S A HURRICANE!
THAT PLANE IS BEING BLOWN STRAIGHT INTO THAT PRIMITIVE SKYSCRAPER! CAN SUPERBOY STOP IT?
BATTLING THE RAGING TEMPEST, THE BOY OF STEEL LEAPS HIGH WITH THE PLUNGING SKYLINER...
HOORAY FOR SUPERBOY!
AT LAST, THE SCREEN GOES DARK! THE STUPENDOUS SPECTACLE IS OVER, AND EVEN AS THE CROWD RISES TO ITS FEET IN THUNDEROUS ACCLAIM...
...JONATHAN EXO FACES DOOM!
DIRL HESTON! Y-YOU'RE GOING TO BLAST ME WITH THAT DISSOLVING RAY!
THEY'LL NEVER FIND A TRACE OF YOU, JONATHAN! YOU PULLED A NEAT STUNT WITH YOUR FAKED MOVIES! BUT IT WILL COST YOUR LIFE!
SUDDENLY...
THAT'S A POWERFUL WEAPON! I ALMOST FELT IT!
BUT A SLIGHT TAP FROM SUPERBOY'S PINKY, AND...
YOU CAN HAVE HIM ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO KILL! WHEN HE WAKES UP IN A DAY OR TWO, HE'LL BE IN JAIL!
MY 4th DIMENSION CAMERA IS WRECKED! DIRL HESTON WILL NEVER CONVINCE ANYONE THAT IT DIDN'T WORK, OR THAT YOU WERE ACTUALLY HERE!
AND SO, A SHORT TIME LATER...
FROM NOW ON, PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO BE CONTENT WITH THE FILMS YOU MADE! THAT'LL BE MORE THAN ENOUGH!
I'M GLAD TO KNOW I WON'T BE SNATCHED BACK HERE AGAIN, JONATHAN! AND THAT REMINDS ME...

RACING AT A SPEED THAT EXCEEDS LIGHT, SUPERBOY BECOMES A BLUR OF MOTION... UNTIL HE PENETRATES THROUGH THE TIME BARRIER...
I'VE AN URGENT APPOINTMENT IN MY OWN TIME! AND I'D BETTER ARRIVE AT THE SAME SECOND I DISAPPEARED!
12
AND SO, AS DEATH LOOMS FOR LANA LANG IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY...
SUPERBOY! YOU SAVED ME!
I---I THOUGHT I WAS A GONER! WHERE IN THE WORLD DID YOU COME FROM, SUPERBOY?
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE ANSWER, IF I TOLD YOU!
THE TRUTH IS, I CAME FROM MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS IN THE FUTURE!
10
AND AS SUPERBOY FLASHES OFF...
SUPERBOY IS WONDERFUL! SIGH! SOMEDAY I'M GOING TO FIND OUT IF HE'S REALLY CLARK KENT!
THE END

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A SPRINT IN TIME SPIKES CRIME

ANOTHER JIM WISE "P.F." ADVENTURE STORY

LOOK, JIM! THAT TRUCK'S BEING HIJACKED!

QUICK, TED, HEAD FOR THE JUNCTION AND GET LT. RAFFERTY. WE'LL TRY TO DELAY THEM

SURE HOPE I CAN GET THERE ON TIME. LUCKY I'M WEARING MY "P-F's"

JIM WISE TELLS WHY "P-F" CANVAS SHOES HELP YOU GO FULL SPEED LONGER!

1. THE IMPORTANT "P-F" RIGID WEDGE HELPS KEEP THE WEIGHT OF THE BODY ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE NORMAL FOOT...DECREASING FOOT AND LEG MUSCLE STRAIN, INCREASING ENDURANCE.

2. SPONGE RUBBER CUSHION.

"P-F" MEANS POSTURE FOUNDATION ®

THEY'RE STARTING TO MOVE, JIM!

THIS BOULDER OUGHT TO SLOW 'EM DOWN!

I'LL HAVE YOU LOOSE IN A JIFFY

THANKS FOR THAT SPEEDY SPRINT, TED. I COULDN'T HAVE HANDLED BOTH OF THEM ALONE

MY "P-F's" WERE A BIG HELP!

TAKE A TIP FROM JIM WISE!

GET YOUR "P-F" CANVAS SHOES TODAY AND SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW THEY HELP:

...LESSEN FOOT AND LEG MUSCLE STRAIN

...INCREASE ENDURANCE

...YOU GO FULL SPEED LONGER

P-F

INSIST ON "P-F" CANVAS SHOES MADE ONLY BY B.F. Goodrich and Hood Rubber Company

LITTLE PETE
LEMONADE 5¢
OH, OH, RAIN!
IT'S COMING DOWN REAL HARD!
LATER..
THE RAIN STOPPED. I CAN GO OUT NOW AND SELL THE REST OF THE LEMONADE!
LEMONADE
5¢ SALE 1¢
THE END

# THE SHIP'S LOG

## *How Uncle Sam Got His Name*

THE letters "U.S.S." preceding the name of a ship are, of course, the initials of the words "United States Ship." However, the conversation of jacktars of the early American Navy might have led listeners to conclude that "U.S.S." stood for "Uncle Sam's Ship."

Although there is some controversy as to the exact derivation of "Uncle Sam," the most commonly accepted version has the expression originating shortly after the declaration of the War of 1812.

In those days, Elbert Anderson, a food contractor for the U.S. Army, purchased considerable quantities of beef and pork from a concentration of supplies near Troy, N.Y. The inspectors of these items at that place were Ebenezer Wilson and his uncle, Samuel Wilson. The latter gentleman (known around these parts as "Uncle Sam") generally superintended in person a large number of workmen employed in preparing the provisions brought for the Army by Mr. Anderson.

Wilson's workmen marked "E.A. — U.S." on each case, thus identifying the contents as having been procured by Elbert Anderson on behalf of the United States.

One day, someone asked a case marker the meaning of the letters. (Use of U.S. for "United States" was then almost unknown.) The marker replied facetiously that "he didn't know unless it meant Elbert Anderson and Uncle Sam" — alluding, of course, to "Uncle Sam" Wilson.

As the war progressed, many of the Wilson employees were recruited as soldiers. Whenever they came across a box or cask with the "E.A. —U.S." stamp, they would laugh and refer to it as some more of Uncle Sam's supplies. The joke caught on and spread until it penetrated every part of the country.

"Uncle Sam" soon became a favorite expression to personify the United States, as it is today, although Elbert Anderson and "Uncle Sam" Wilson and his workmen have long since been forgotten.

## *A Head for Old Hickory*

Andrew Jackson, even as a statuesque figurehead at the prow of a ship, was a character of intense controversy.

Back in the 1830s, when Jackson was President of the country, the USS *Constitution* was brought into the Boston Navy Yard for overhaul. She had just come back from the Barbary Wars where her figurehead, a Herculean figure with one hand holding a scroll representing the constitution, had been severely damaged.

The Navy Yard commandant, therefore, set about supplying the *Constitution* with a new figurehead. One featuring President Jackson was proposed. But when this plan became known, the citizens of Boston and New England, few of whom would've been called ardent Jackson followers, were virtually up in arms. There were, in fact, threats of tar and feathers for the commandant.

But he was not to be frightened by such coercion. He proceeded to hire a wood carver, and later when the threats became even more violent he transferred the carver and the half-finished figure to the New York Navy Yard as a precautionary measure.

Eventually, the figure was completed. It showed Jackson in dress clothes, a cape flung over his shoulders. In his right hand, he held a scroll. His left was stuck into his vest in Napoleon style.

Back at Boston, the figurehead was put in its place at the prow of the *Constitution* and the turmoil among the anti-Jackson New England populace reached such fever pitch that it was necessary to keep "Old Ironsides" under constant guard.

Despite the vigilance, however, one dark night a bold young man in a small skiff rowed under the bow of the *Constitution*. He broke out a saw and proceeded to cut off Old Hickory's head.

The culprit became a Boston hero. This inspired him to such an extent that he took his prize to Washington and displayed it to the Secretary of the Navy. Despite his destructive act, the perpetrator was never faced with any official charges.

However, the figure was repaired, this time at the New York Navy Yard, and for many years Old Hickory's figurehead stood at the prow of the *Constitution*.

The controversial carving was later taken to the Naval Academy Museum at Annapolis.

## *From Pilot to Pea-Coat*

For more than 200 years, the heavy topcoat worn in cold weather by seafaring men has been called a pea-coat or pea-jacket.

Although the exact derivation of the term pea-coat or pea-jacket is obscure, one of the most plausible explanations is that the coats once were tailored from pilot cloth, a coarse, stout kind of twilled blue cloth with a nap on one side. The cloth sometimes was called p-cloth, for the initial letters of the word, and the garment made from it became known as a p-jacket—later pea-jacket, a term in use from 1723 on.

There also is the version that pea-coat is derived from an old Dutch word variously spelled py, pie, pii and applied in the 1400s to a coarse, thick, stout, woolen cloth or felt and the coat garment made from it.

Today's overcoat is made of jersey cloth which takes its name from Jersey Village in Suffolk, England, where a kind of coarse and ribbed woolen cloth was manufactured as early as the 13th century.

## *Tattoo Talk*

The word "tattoo' has several meanings, but when a sailor hears the term he usually thinks of either an ornamentation of the skin or the bugle call sounded shortly before "Taps."

As for the former, etymologists (people who make a study of word origins) agree that tattoo is of Polynesian origin and is derived from the Moari *ta*, or scar, and the Tahitian *tatu*, a mark, puncture (of the skin).

A primitive practise, tattooing appears to have started simply as personal embellishment, although various markings later took on symbolic or heraldic significance. Many were of social or religious nature and others served as crude marks of identification.

Seamen accompanying early explorers and traders to the South Sea and East Indian islands were quick to adopt the custom as a fad. In our Navy today, tattooing is discouraged and looked upon with disfavor. Tattoo marks are permanent and can be removed only by a long and often painful operation or process attended with the risk of infection.

There is some divergence of opinion as to the derivation of *tattoo* in reference to the evening bugle call sounded as a signal to repair to quarters, maintain silence and prepare to retire. However, most authorities agree that the English word comes from the old Dutch *taptoe*, a combination of *tap* (faucet) and *toe* (to shut). The Swedish, Russian, German and Danish languages all have approximately the same word.

A *tap* was a plug or spigot to stop a hole in a cask. Later, it applied to a hole or pipe through which liquor could be drawn. Today, we have taproom, beer on tap, etc., and, of course, the bugle call "taps."

Taptoe was corrupted to *taptoo* and eventually tattoo. In early days, it was a signal sounded on drum and fife or trumpet or bugle just prior to "Taps" as a signal to close up all taps and taverns in a garrisoned town and for the soldiers to report to their quarters in a garrison or to their tents in the field, to put out all candles, lanterns and fires, and to go to bed.

One source traces the sounding of the "tattoo" call to the call to the Thirty Years War, when it was called Zapfenstreich.

The call "Tattoo," consisting of 28 bars, is the longest in the repertoire of military and naval buglers. The music for the call is taken partly from the French and partly from the British military services. The first eight bars are the French signal for "lights out." The remaining 20 bars are copied from the elaborate British infantry tattoo. The English themselves seem to have derived their music from one of the trumpet calls of the Italian service, which in turn, bears a close resemblance to "Il Silencio," a bugle call of the Neapolitan cavalry.

*(Reprinted from ALL HANDS, The Bureau of Naval Personnel Information Bulletin)*

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
HAVE YOU EVER PICKED UP THE DAY'S PAPER AND READ ABOUT A BOY WHO RAN AWAY FROM HOME? HAVE YOU WONDERED ABOUT THE GRIEF AND HEARTACHE HE'S CAUSED HIS PARENTS... AND WHY HE DID IT? WELL, YOU'LL WONDER MUCH MORE WHEN YOU READ THIS TALE OF A LAD WHO LEFT HOME, FOR IT IS NONE OTHER THAN SUPERBOY WHO UNEXPLAINABLY BECOMES...
"CLARK KENT, RUNAWAY!"
SUPERBOY! I DON'T CARE HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO REPAIR THAT BRIDGE! YOU MUST BRING CLARK KENT HOME! HIS PARENTS ARE GRIEF-STRICKEN!
CLARK KENT? HMPH... HE'S NO CONCERN OF MINE!
1

ONE DAY, IN A LARGE CITY MANY MILES FROM SMALLVILLE...
YOU CAN LET DOWN THAT BUILDING, NOW, SUPERBOY... WE'VE REPAIRED HER CRACKED FOUNDATION... AND THANKS A LOT!
MOMENTS LATER, IN ANOTHER DISTANT SPOT...
THE STRONGEST DRILLS THEY HAD WERE CRACKED BY THIS HARD ROCK! I GUESS IT'S UP TO ME, SPINNING AT SUPER-SPEED, TO SEE THAT THIS GOVERNMENT PROJECT STRIKES OIL!
VAVRRRRRR
PRESENTLY, AS A BLUE-AND-RED FIGURE STREAKS ALONG THE SKYLANES...
I'M GLAD THERE WAS NO SCHOOL TODAY, SINCE SO MANY CHORES WERE PILING UP ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, REQUIRING MY ATTENTION!
SHORTLY, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SMALLVILLE...
THE COAST IS CLEAR. I'M FREE TO SWITCH BACK TO MY EVERYDAY IDENTITY! AFTER THAT BATCH OF ODD JOBS ALL OVER THE LAND, IT'LL BE SHEER PLEASURE TO SPEND THE EVENING WITH MY FRIENDS --- AS CLARK KENT!
BUT AFTERWARD, IN THE KENT LIVING ROOM...
MMFF --- THESE HAIRPINS... THEY'RE SUCH A BOTHER! I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO... OH-HELLO, CLARK DEAR!
GLAD YOU GOT BACK EARLY, SON... THERE ARE SOME ODD JOBS THAT MUST BE DONE AROUND THE HOUSE TONIGHT!
BUT, DAD... I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EVENING WITH THE FELLOWS!
SORRY, CLARK... YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO CHANGE YOUR PLANS!
BUT WHY CAN'T YOU CHANGE YOUR PLANS? WHY CAN'T I ATTEND TO THOSE CHORES SOME OTHER TIME?

LET'S NOT ARGUE, SON... MY MIND IS MADE UP! SOME OF THESE CHORES MUST BE DONE AT ONCE AND REQUIRE YOUR...ER... SPECIAL TALENTS!
I PROMISED THE FELLOWS I'D MEET THEM, AND I WON'T GO BACK ON MY WORD!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU WON'T? REGARDLESS OF EVERYTHING ELSE, I'M YOUR FATHER, AND I WON'T PERMIT YOU TO DEFY ME! GET UP TO YOUR ROOM AND STAY THERE TILL YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND!
VERY WELL, DAD!
WAIT, JONATHAN... AREN'T YOU BEING TOO HARSH WITH THE BOY?
NO, MARTHA! UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I MUST BE FIRM!
BUT---LATE THAT NIGHT...
THEY'RE ASLEEP NOW... HAVE TO MOVE QUIETLY SO I DON'T DISTURB THEM!
NEXT MORNING, AS MRS. LANG, THE KENTS' NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR, PAYS A VISIT...
GOOD MORNING, MARTHA... I KNOW YOU RISE EARLY, OTHERWISE I WOULDN'T HAVE DISTURBED YOU! I PROMISED TO BAKE A CAKE FOR THE LADIES' AUXILIARY, AND I NEED SOME SUGAR!
CERTAINLY! I'LL... GOODNESS WHAT'S THAT NOTE DOING THERE? I DIDN'T SEE IT LAST NIGHT!
IT... IT'S... OOOH... I THINK I'M GOING TO FAINT! READ IT!
MARTHA! WHAT IS IT?
WH---WHY, IT'S FROM CLARK! HE... HE'S... MR. KENT!
MR. KENT!
Dear Mom + Dad: I'm sorry, but after last night I had to leave home. Please don't worry about me. I'll get along. Clark
3

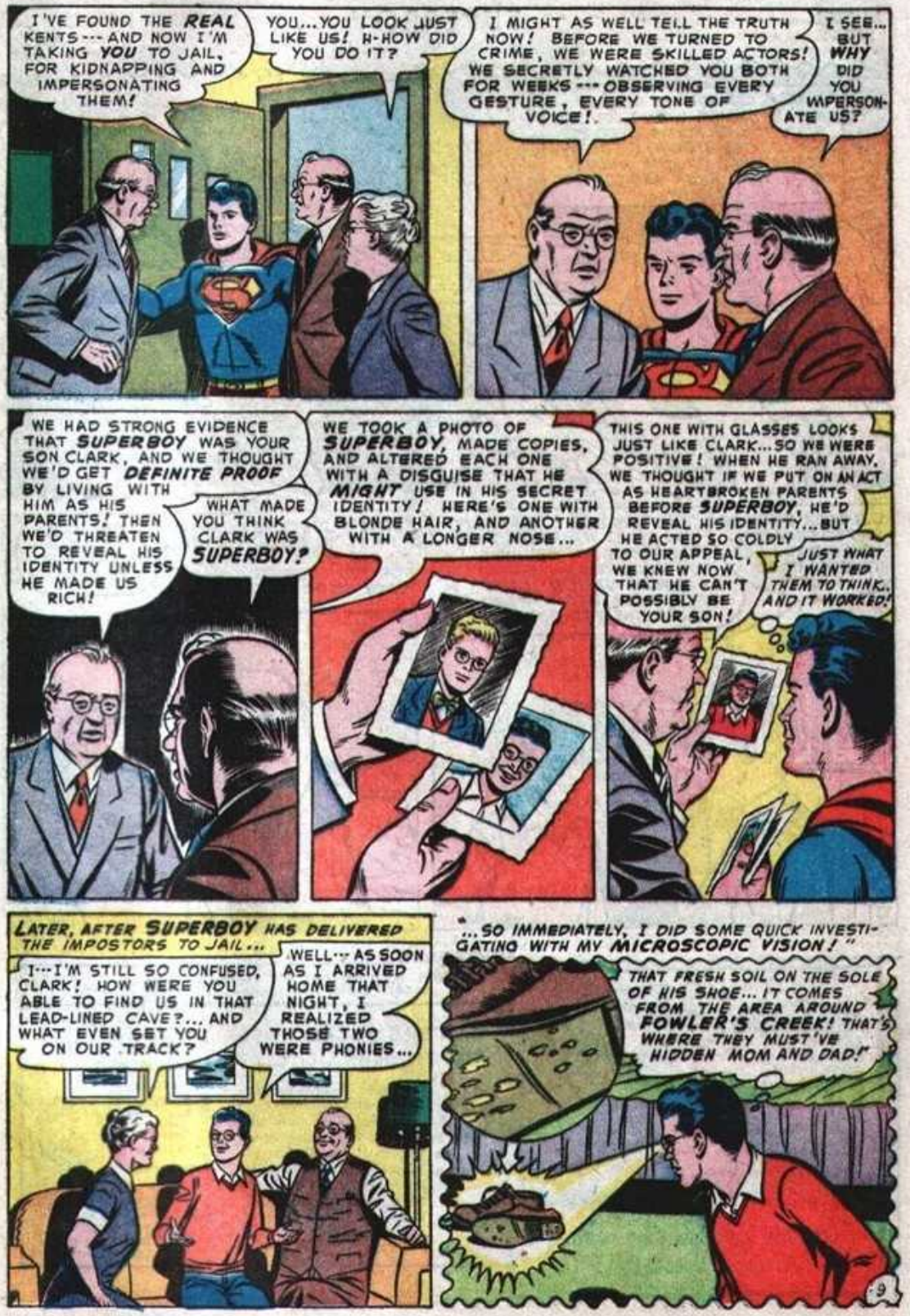
MINUTES LATER...
OH, MY POOR, DEAR BOY! I KNEW YOU WERE BEING TOO SEVERE LAST NIGHT, JONATHAN! WE... WE... MUST GET HIM BACK!
I... I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY WOULD CLARK EVER DO A THING LIKE THIS?
YES, CLARK... WHY? ALL BOYS HAVE DISAGREEMENTS WITH THEIR PARENTS... BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE THEM LEAVE HOME...
AND WHEN THE SHERIFF ARRIVES...
HERE... HERE'S HIS PICTURE, SHERIFF! OH, CLARK... I.. I MAY NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME IF... IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME?
NOW--- NOW, CALM YOURSELF, MRS. KENT! I'LL START A STATE-WIDE SEARCH AND WE'LL HAVE HIM BACK IN TIME FOR DINNER!
AT THAT MOMENT, SOME DISTANCE FROM SMALLVILLE...
WHY YES, I'LL BE GLAD TO GIVE YOU LUNCH IN RETURN FOR SOME CHORES, LAD! YOU'LL FIND A PILE OF WOOD NEAR THE STREAM... WHEN YOU'VE CHOPPED IT ALL, I'LL HAVE A HOT MEAL READY FOR YOU!
THANK YOU, MA'AM!
BUT ONCE CLARK IS ALONE...
I CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE CLARK AND SUPERBOY MISSING FROM SMALLVILLE AT THE SAME TIME--- SO SINCE IT WOULD TAKE AN ORDINARY PERSON ABOUT AN HOUR TO CHOP THAT WOOD...
...I CAN DO THE JOB IN A MOMENT, AND USE THE REST OF THE HOUR TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE IN SMALLVILLE!
WHAMMP!
SCANT SECONDS LATER, BACK AT HIS HOME TOWN...
HMM... NOT A MINUTE TOO SOON! THE BRAKES ON THAT TRUCK ARE WORN THROUGH, AND HE CAN'T STOP!
THE DRIVERS ARE JARRED A BIT... BUT NO SERIOUS DAMAGE, EXCEPT WHERE MY HANDS CRUMPLED THE METAL! WITH A LITTLE SUPER-PRESSURE, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO STRAIGHTEN THAT OUT QUICKLY ENOUGH!
WHUMMP

AT THAT INSTANT, IN THE KENT HOUSEHOLD...
I'VE JUST HEARD... SUPERBOY IS AT MAIN STREET! WHY DON'T YOU MAKE A PERSONAL APPEAL TO HIM TO HELP FIND CLARK?
WH-WHAT? SUPERBOY? YES, LET'S RUSH RIGHT DOWN, JONATHAN!
AND WITHIN MINUTES...
SUPERBOY! WON'T YOU PLEASE COME... ER... I MEAN--- WON'T YOU TRY TO FIND CLARK AND... ER... CONVINCE HIM TO COME HOME?
YES! TELL HIM I'M SORRY I ACTED AS I DID... THAT WE BOTH MISS HIM MORE THAN WORDS CAN SAY!
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN, MR. KENT, BUT I DON'T GUARANTEE ANYTHING! I'M ALWAYS VERY BUSY, YOU KNOW... MAY NOT GET TO SEE CLARK FOR QUITE AWHILE!
GOSH! I ALWAYS SUSPECTED CLARK WAS SUPERBOY... BUT HE'S SO COLD TO THE KENTS NOW, I MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, SUPERBOY? ISN'T AN APOLOGY FROM YOUR FATHER ENOUGH? OR DO YOU REALLY PLAN TO LEAVE HOME FOR GOOD?
LATER, AS CLARK FINISHES THE LUNCH HE EARNED.
WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO BRING YOU A SPECIAL MESSAGE. POLICE ARE CONDUCTING A STATEWIDE SEARCH FOR CLARK KENT OF SMALLVILLE, MISSING SINCE THIS MORNING. CLARK WEARS SHELL GLASSES, HAS DARK EYES AND HAIR...
WH---WHY... THAT DESCRIPTION FITS YOU!
ELMER! QUICK! CALL THE POLICE! THIS IS THE BOY THEY'RE LOOKING FOR... THE ONE WHO RAN AWAY FROM HIS PARENTS!
ONCE AROUND THE BEND, I CAN GET AWAY AT SUPER-SPEED! I... I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK HOME!
SO CLARK FLEES AGAIN--- BUT IN THE MEANTIME, AT THE KENT HOME...
CLARK KENT WAS SIGHTED AT LUZERNE JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO! AUTHORITIES ARE THROWING A CORDON AROUND THE ENTIRE AREA!
IF I COULD ONLY SPEAK TO HIM FOR A FEW MOMENTS, I'M SURE I COULD GET HIM TO RETURN! ISN'T THERE ANY WAY TO GET HIM HERE, JUST TO LISTEN TO ME?

MAYBE I CAN GET HIM HERE! APPARENTLY SUPERBOY IS APPEARING IN SMALLVILLE IN RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES... SO I'LL JUST CREATE ONE MYSELF!
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS CLARK HIDES IN A THICKLY WOODED AREA, HIS TELESCOPIC VISION TRAINED ON SMALLVILLE...
OH---OUR HOUSE... ON FIRE! THEY MUST BE GETTING DESPERATE!
IN THE FRACTION OF AN INSTANT, CLARK SWITCHES IDENTITIES, AND...
SKRRRRRRR!
LUCKILY, I NOTICED AN ABANDONED GAS STORAGE TANK BETWEEN HERE AND SMALLVILLE! SLIDING DOWN THIS TREE AT SUPER-SPEED, I CAN RIP THE BRANCHES OFF AND MAKE A NICE LONG POLE!
NOW I'LL SNAP IT OFF, CLOSE TO THE BASE...
KRAKK
... AND INSERT IT INTO THAT TANK!
WHOOSH
NEXT MOMENT...
THERE! LIKE A GIANT CANDLE-SNUFFER, THE TANK PUTS OUT THE FIRE INSTANTLY, AND...OH,OH... HERE'S WHERE I HAVE TO MAKE ANOTHER QUICK GETAWAY!
SUPERBOY! I... I WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU!

IF I STAYED TO TALK TO HER, IT WOULD ONLY RESULT IN A LOT OF EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS!
OH DEAR! HE... HE LEFT BEFORE I EVEN HAD A CHANCE TO SAY ANYTHING TO HIM!
LATER THAT DAY...
SOB H-HOW IS SHE, DOCTOR?
NOT TOO WELL, I'M AFRAID! FROM THE WAY SHE SPOKE TO ME, SHE SEEMS TO BE IN A BAD STATE OF SHOCK... AND THERE ISN'T MUCH CHANCE SHE'LL COME OUT OF IT TILL SHE GETS HER BOY BACK!
IF... IF I CAN CONTACT SUPERBOY, WOULD YOU TELL HIM JUST THAT? I'M POSITIVE HE'D MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO FIND CLARK IF HE KNEW MRS. KENT'S CONDITION!
CERTAINLY! I'M SURE SUPERBOY WOULD BE GLAD TO COOPERATE!
IT CERTAINLY WOULD BE EASY FOR SUPERBOY TO COOPERATE... YET WHY DOESN'T HE?
TOWARD EVENING, AT AN ABANDONED FACTORY OUTSIDE SMALLVILLE...
I MUST GET SUPERBOY TO HEAR WHAT THE DOCTOR SAID... EVEN THOUGH IT MEANS CAUSING A PANIC IN TOWN! THIS PLACE IS FULL OF GIANT FIGHTING ROBOTS WHICH THE ARMY WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH AND LATER ABANDONED! THEY SHOULD SERVE MY PURPOSE!
SOME TIME LATER, AS A HEAVY METALLIC TREAD REVERBERATES THROUGH THE STREETS OF SMALLVILLE...
HELP! TH-THE GIANT ROBOTS ARE LOOSE! THEY WEIGH THOUSANDS OF POUNDS EACH! ONLY SUPERBOY CAN STOP THEM!
SO ONCE AGAIN, AS DANGER THREATENS, SUPERBOY APPEARS, AND...
THEY PROBABLY WON'T HARM ANYONE, BUT THEY MUST BE TERRIFYING THE CHILDREN! THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED LONG AGO... SO I MIGHT AS WELL DO IT NOW! HMM... THAT SCRAP METAL SHOULD COME IN HANDY!
I'LL ROLL IT ALL INTO ONE HUGE BALL IN A FEW SECONDS!
7

NEXT INSTANT...
I ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE HOW GOOD I WAS AT BOWLING, AND HERE'S MY CHANCE!
AHH... A STRIKE... AND STRONG ENOUGH TO SWEEP THEM OUT OF TOWN! I'LL PICK UP THE DEBRIS AND DISPOSE OF IT LATER... BUT RIGHT NOW, I HAVE TO RUSH AWAY!
KRASHH
WAIT, SUPERBOY! CLARK'S MOTHER IS VERY ILL AND THE DOCTOR SAYS... WH-WHAT? HE LEFT LIKE A FLASH OF LIGHT AS SOON AS HE SAW ME! WHAT'LL I DO NOW, DOCTOR?
THERE'S ONLY ONE HOPE LEFT, KENT... IF THAT FAILS, NOTHING WILL BRING BACK YOUR SON!
WHAT IS THE DOCTOR PLANNING? LATER THAT EVENING, FROM A NEARBY TELEVISION STUDIO, A TOUCHING SCENE FLASHES ACROSS THE COUNTRY...
MY BOY... CLARK--- PLEASE COME HOME... I NEED YOU!
CLARK, WHEREVER YOU ARE, I HOPE YOU SEE AND HEAR ME! YOUR MOTHER IS ILL... WE'RE BOTH HEARTSICK! PLEASE COME HOME... WE CAN'T GO ON WITHOUT YOU!
SOB! HOW CAN A BOY RESIST AN APPEAL LIKE THAT?
PRESENTLY, THERE IS A KNOCK AT THE KENT DOOR, AND...
SUPERBOY! YOU... YOU'VE COME!
YES... BUT YOU WON'T BE GLAD WHEN YOU FIND OUT WHY! THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE OUT HERE I WANT YOU TO MEET!
8


I'VE FOUND THE REAL KENTS --- AND NOW I'M TAKING YOU TO JAIL, FOR KIDNAPPING AND IMPERSONATING THEM!
YOU...YOU LOOK JUST LIKE US! H-HOW DID YOU DO IT?
I MIGHT AS WELL TELL THE TRUTH NOW! BEFORE WE TURNED TO CRIME, WE WERE SKILLED ACTORS! WE SECRETLY WATCHED YOU BOTH FOR WEEKS --- OBSERVING EVERY GESTURE, EVERY TONE OF VOICE!
I SEE... BUT WHY DID YOU IMPERSONATE US?
WE HAD STRONG EVIDENCE THAT SUPERBOY WAS YOUR SON CLARK, AND WE THOUGHT WE'D GET DEFINITE PROOF BY LIVING WITH HIM AS HIS PARENTS! THEN WE'D THREATEN TO REVEAL HIS IDENTITY UNLESS HE MADE US RICH!
WHAT MADE YOU THINK CLARK WAS SUPERBOY?
WE TOOK A PHOTO OF SUPERBOY, MADE COPIES, AND ALTERED EACH ONE WITH A DISGUISE THAT HE MIGHT USE IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY! HERE'S ONE WITH BLONDE HAIR, AND ANOTHER WITH A LONGER NOSE...
THIS ONE WITH GLASSES LOOKS JUST LIKE CLARK... SO WE WERE POSITIVE! WHEN HE RAN AWAY, WE THOUGHT IF WE PUT ON AN ACT AS HEARTBROKEN PARENTS BEFORE SUPERBOY, HE'D REVEAL HIS IDENTITY... BUT HE ACTED SO COLDLY TO OUR APPEAL, WE KNEW NOW THAT HE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE YOUR SON!
JUST WHAT I WANTED THEM TO THINK.. AND IT WORKED!
LATER, AFTER SUPERBOY HAS DELIVERED THE IMPOSTORS TO JAIL...
I...I'M STILL SO CONFUSED, CLARK! HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO FIND US IN THAT LEAD-LINED CAVE?... AND WHAT EVEN SET YOU ON OUR TRACK?
WELL... AS SOON AS I ARRIVED HOME THAT NIGHT, I REALIZED THOSE TWO WERE PHONIES...
"...SO IMMEDIATELY, I DID SOME QUICK INVESTIGATING WITH MY MICROSCOPIC VISION!"
THAT FRESH SOIL ON THE SOLE OF HIS SHOE... IT COMES FROM THE AREA AROUND FOWLER'S CREEK! THAT'S WHERE THEY MUST'VE HIDDEN MOM AND DAD!"
9

"I SEARCHED FOR YOU AS SOON AS I LEFT HOME! WHEN I COULDN'T FIND YOU BY FLYING OVERHEAD AND LOOKING **DOWN**, I HONEY-COMBED THE GROUND UNDERNEATH THAT AREA AND LOOKED **UP!**"

AAH... JUST AS I HOPED! THEY FORGOT TO COVER THE **FLOOR** WITH LEAD, THE ONE SUBSTANCE WHICH MY **X-RAY VISION** CAN'T PENETRATE! NOW THAT I KNOW WHERE MOM AND DAD ARE, I CAN EXPOSE THE IMPOSTORS, ONCE I'VE CONVINCED THEM THAT I'M NOT CLARK!

BUT THEIR DISGUISE WAS SO PERFECT... HOW DID YOU SEE THROUGH IT SO FAST?

THAT WAS EASY! "MA" KENT WAS USING **HAIRPINS**... AND YOU NEVER DO, BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT THE HEAT OF MY **X-RAY VISION** MIGHT MAKE THEM RED-HOT AND CAUSE THEM TO BURN YOU!

THERE'S JUST ONE QUESTION I WANT TO ASK NOW, CLARK! I HAVE SOME ODD JOBS FOR YOU TONIGHT... READY TO DO THEM?

YOU BET, DAD... WHATEVER YOU SAY!

10

The END

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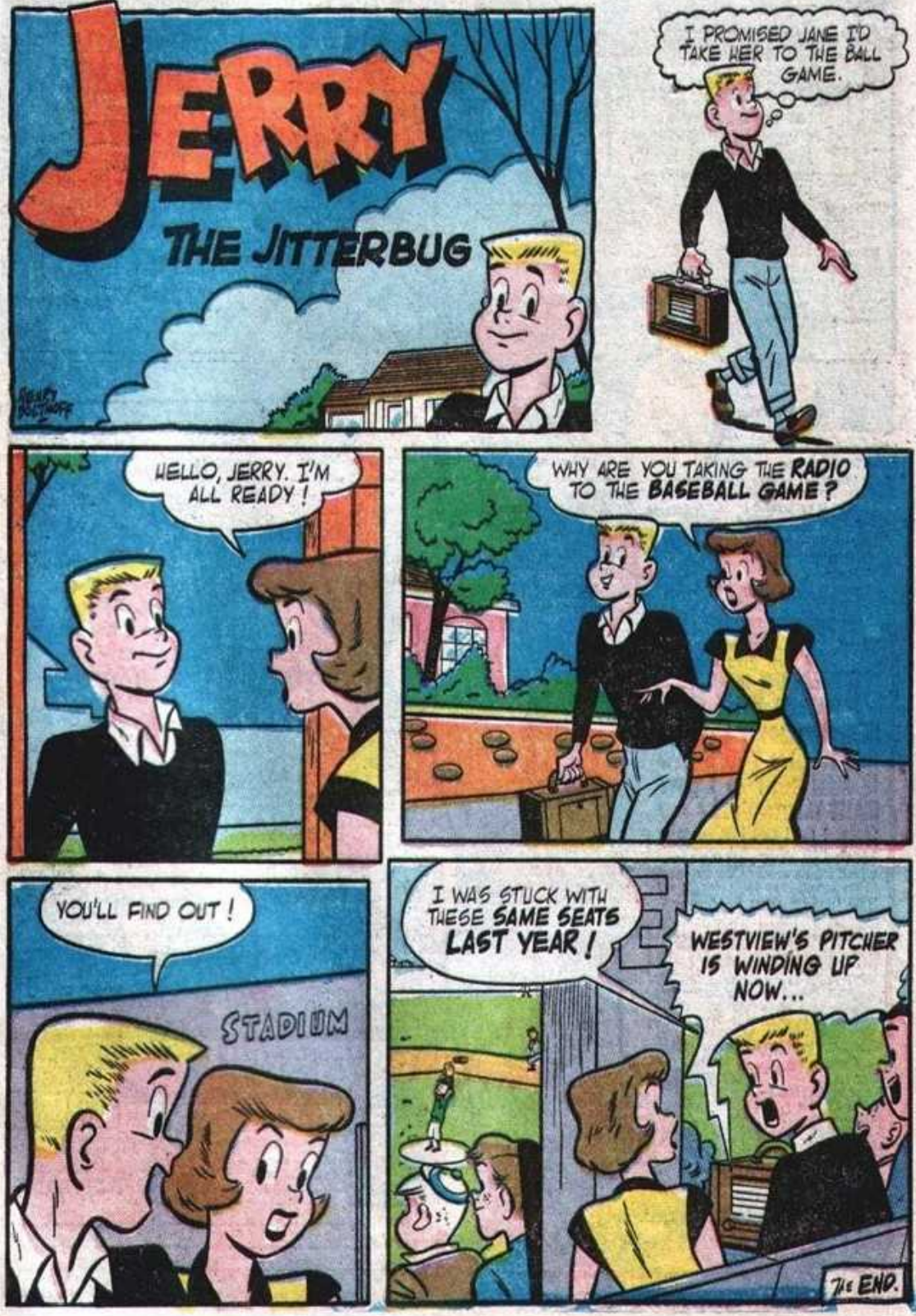
JERRY
THE JITTERBUG
I PROMISED JANE I'D TAKE HER TO THE BALL GAME.
HELLO, JERRY. I'M ALL READY!
WHY ARE YOU TAKING THE RADIO TO THE BASEBALL GAME?
YOU'LL FIND OUT!
STADIUM
I WAS STUCK WITH THESE SAME SEATS LAST YEAR!
WESTVIEW'S PITCHER IS WINDING UP NOW...
THE END.